03560.002971.

## **PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATI	ENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Sh re Application of:	)
YUSUKE NAKAZONO, ET AL.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Application No.: 10/029,291	Group Art Unit: 218 RECEIVED
Filed: December 28, 2001	NOV 2 8 2003
For: INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS, INFORMATION PROCESSING METHOD, PROGRAM, AND STORAGE MEDIUM PRODUCT FOR DISTRIBUTION OF IMAGE FORMING CONTROL	Technology Center 2100
SOFTWARE	: Date: November 25, 2003

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u>

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

- Japan 58-191520
   Japan 10-077727
- (3) Japan 2000-035812

English-language abstracts for References (1) to (3) are also enclosed.

References (1) to (3) were cited during prosecution of a Japanese Patent Application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the Japanese Office Action is also enclosed.

Inasmuch as the subject application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 50.325

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO 30 Rockefeller Plaza New York, New York 10112-3800

Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.